

2014-15 QUORUM COURT ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

January 1, 2015

The 2015-16 Justices of the Peace met on Thursday, January 1, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. in the Benton County Administration Building, Quorum Court Room, Third Floor, 215 E. Central, Bentonville, Arkansas.

The meeting was called to order by County Judge Bob Clinard.

The presiding officer led the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Prayer was led by JP Steve Curry.

A moment of silence was held in support of the men and women serving the United States Armed Forces.

Quorum Court Coordinator Janet Reaves called roll as follows:

15 JP's Present: Easley, Shadlow, J. Harrison, Allen, K. Harrison, Pat Adams, Jones
Sandlin, Anglin, Chiocco, Curry, Leadabrand, Moore, Meyers,
Moehring

Purpose of Meeting

County Judge Bob Clinard read Arkansas State Code §14-14-904 and stated that that is the purpose of this meeting today.

County Attorney George Spence – F.O.I. Briefing

County Attorney George Spence stated that the Freedom of Information Act, (FOIA) is one of the most important laws that we have in the state. He stated the Freedom of Information Act allows the citizens of Benton County to know what the court is doing. He stated that there are two aspects to the act; the records and the meetings. He explained that all meetings of the Quorum Court are subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) in general and that all meetings must be announced in advance and the public has to be able to attend the meetings. He stated that this applies to all Quorum Court and committee meetings

He also stated that any emails are subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) as records, whether it is on the county email address or your personal email account. He stated that text messages are also subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). He added do not put anything in texts or emails that you do not want to read in court or see in the newspaper.

JP Allen asked whether it was possible for members who may be out of town to participate in meetings remotely via teleconferencing.

George Spence stated that he did not see any problems with the participation, but that he would have to check to see if a member participating via teleconferencing would be allowed to vote during the meeting.

Introduction of Justices of the Peace

County Judge Bob Clinard asked that each of the Justices of the Peace introduce themselves.

Ron Easley – District 1	District 2 – Susan Shadlow
Jay Harrison – District 3	Tom Allen – District 4
Kevin Harrison – District 5	Pat Adams – District 6
Joel Jones – District 7	Shirley Sandlin – District 8
Susan Anglin – District 9	Michele Blaty - District 10
Steve Curry – District 11	Tom Leadabrand – District 12
Kurt Moore – District 13	Brent Meyers – District 14
Barry Moehring – District 15	

15 JP's Present

Committee Assignments

County Judge Bob Clinard presented the new committee assignments and chairs for 2015 as follows:

Finance Committee: Tom Allen (Chair), Kurt Moore, Joel Jones, Ron Easley, Michele Chiocco, Barry Moehring, Steve Curry

Public Safety Committee: Joel Jones (Chair), Pat Adams, Tom Allen, Tom Leadabrand, Susan Anglin, Sue Shadlow, Barry Moehring

Personnel: Shirley Sandlin (Chair), Michelle Chiocco, Jay Harrison, Tom Leadabrand, Susan Anglin, Sue Shadlow

Transportation Committee: Steve Curry (Chair), Susan Anglin, Kevin Harrison, Kurt Moore, Pat Adams, Brent Meyers

Legislative Committee: Kevin Harrison (Chair) Ron Easley, Michelle Chiocco, Jay Harrison, Shirley Sandlin, Brent Meyers, Susan Anglin

Grievance Council: Michelle Chiocco (Chair), Joel Jones, Shirley Sandlin, Susan Anglin, Kurt Moore

Appointment of Planning Board Liaison

JP Allen made motion to nominate Susan Shadlow as the Planning Board Liaison, seconded by JP Anglin.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Appointment of JESAP Committee Liaison

JP Moehring made motion to nominate Shirley Sandlin as the JESAP Committee Liaison, seconded by JP Jones.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Appointment of AAC Quorum Court Rep

JP Adams made motion to nominate Susan Anglin as the AAC Quorum Court Representative for Benton County, seconded by JP Jones

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee of The Whole

JP Moehring made motion to nominate JP Moore as Chairman and JP Allen as Vice Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, seconded by JP Jones.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Set Dates/Times for Quorum Court and Committee Meetings

County Judge Bob Clinard stated that the committee meetings will be set by the committee chairs, except for those that have been set by ordinance or resolution. He added that he recommends keeping the current meeting schedule, with the Committee of the Whole meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. and the Quorum Court meeting on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. if acceptable by the court.

JP Allen made motion to approve and accept the current meeting schedules, seconded by JP Jones.

There being no discussion, a roll call vote was recorded as follows:

15 Yeas: Easley, Shadlow, J. Harrison, Allen, K. Harrison, Adams,
Jones, Sandlin, Anglin, Chiocco, Curry, Leadabrand, Moore, Meyers,
Moehring

Motion passed.

JP Sandlin stated that she wanted to encourage the new member to speak up if they had any questions.

Establish Procedural Rules to Be Followed

County Attorney George Spence stated that the rules of procedure for transacting business all regular and special sessions of the quorum court and all committee meetings shall be "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised".

Some discussion was held to allow the chairman of a committee to vote on business being transacted at committee meetings.

JP Allen made a motion and recommended that each committee chair is allowed to vote on whatever item is being discussed and voted on at that committee, seconded by JP Sandlin.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

County Judge Bob Clinard stated that it is up to each of the chairman of each committee to schedule meetings, but encouraged Committee Chair JP Jones to have monthly meetings of the Public Safety/Justice Facility Committee.

Announcements/Other Comments

JP Allen announced that the Finance Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

JP Moore announced that the Committee of the Whole will meet on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

JP Moore announced that a Special Committee of the Whole meeting will be held on Thursday, January 15, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. to tour the Benton County Courtroom Facilities.

County Judge Bob Clinard stated that he would like for each Justice to visit the courts facility during the workday, and that he wants at least three justices to go with him on each tour and that he would like them to observe the court while it is in session. He stated that you have to see what it is like while court is in session to get the feel of it.

JP Jones announced that a Public Safety/Justice Facility Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 26,, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

Adjourn

After a motion and second, the meeting adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tena O'Brien
County Clerk
Prepared by: Janet Reaves